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Review of *Waltz of the Snowflakes* by Elly Mackay

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Waltz of the Snowflakes
Mackay, Elly
New York: Running Press Kids, 2017

At first, when her grandmother gives her the ticket, the little girl doesn't want to go to The Nutcracker. She doesn't want to go out in the weather, and she doesn't want to brush her hair or wear a dress. She braves the rain and encounters an unruly boy who is seated next to her. However, once the music starts, the little girl and boy are engaged in the ballet and are interested in the action. By the second act, they are giggling along with the characters and are enraptured by the bright colors and beautiful costumes. The girl shares candy with the boy, cementing the friendship, and the pair excitedly finish watching the ballet. By the time the girl and her grandmother leave the theater, the rain has turned into snow, and the girl dances her way home. Since this book is wordless, the illustrations are incredibly important, and these illustrations exceed every expectation. The characters are vivid and emotions are clearly stated through their expressions, and the bright colors of the ballet immediately lift the reader from the grumpy tones of the beginning pages. The figures are intricate, and the full pages will leave the reader studying the pages to capture every detail. The themes of love and friendship are universal and would be appreciated by all ages of readers.

Recommended
Erin Kloosterman, Centennial Library Intern